are viable are eligible for assistance under the Scheme.

Delinking of Associated Banks from S.B.I.

876. SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA KAUR (DEEPA):
SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU:
SHRI BALRAJ PASSI:
SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned 'MPs favour demand to delink associated banks from SBI' appearing in the Economic Times dated January 29, 1992;

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c). Government have seen the news-item referred to in the question regarding the memorandum submitted by some Hon'ble MPs recommending that 7 associate banks of the State Bank of India be merged into one corporation by delinking them from that bank.

The Committee on the Financial System, under the Chairmanship of Shri M. Narasimham, set up by the Government to examine all aspects relating to the structure, organisation, function and procedures of the financial system has, in its report inter alia, made certain recommendations regarding restructuring of the banking system. So far no decision has been taken in this regard.

[Translation]

Assistance from Japan

877. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA:
SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK:
SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY:
SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Japan has signed an agreement recently to give assistance of 66000 million Yen to India;

(b) if so, the details of the projects on which this amount is to be incurred and the time by which these projects are likely to be completed; and

(c) the conditions laid by Japan for these loans?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Five Loan Agreements for Yen, 66,082 million as detailed below were signed with OECF of Japan on 9.1.1992:

	Project	*Amount in Million Yen*	*Expected Date of Completion*
i)	Gandhar Gas Based Combined Cycle Power Project (II)	42,599	July, 1995

	Project	*Amount in Million Yen*	*Expected Date of Completion*
ii)	National Highway No.2 Improvement Project.	4,855	June, 1996
iii)	Urban City Water Supply Project.	6,788	Dec., 1995
iv)	Afforestation Project in Aravalli Hills.	8,095	March, 1997
v)	Ajanta-Ellora Conservation and Tourism Development Project.	3,745	Dec., 1996.

(c) Procurement under the project at sl.No. (i) is LDC untied and in case of projects at sl.nos. (ii) to (v), it is general untied. The above OECF loan is repayable in 30 years including a moratorium of 10 years and carries an interest at the rate of 2.6 per cent per annum.

[*English*]

Launch Services from Mumbai

878. SHRI RAM NAIK: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided that henceforth permission to run launch services to Revas, Mora and Elephanta Island from Mumbai be given by the State Government; and

(b) if so, since when and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Quantum of Imports

879. DR. Y.S. RAJESEKHAR REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of imports made during the year 1991; and

(b) the quantum and percentage of imports of crude oil and petroleum products made during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) The trade figures are compiled on financial year basis. It may further be mentioned that the quantum figures of aggregate imports are not compiled in view of the mixed basket of items. In value terms, India's imports in the calender year 1991 were estimated at Rs. 45624 crores.

(b) The import of crude oil and petroleum products during the calender year 1991